

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

January 11, 2001

RQ-3

Richard Herber, Treasurer Elections Committee of the County of Orange 1700 E. Garry Street, Suite 211 Santa Ana, CA 92705

Identification Number:

C00192302

Reference:

Amended April Quarterly Report (1/1/00-3/31/00), received 7/14/00

Dear Mr. Herber:

This letter is to inform you that as of January 10, 2001 the Commission has not received your response to our request for additional information, dated December 20, 2000. This notice requests information essential to full public disclosure of your federal election campaign finances. To ensure compliance with the provisions of the Federal Election Campaign Act (the Act), please respond to this request (copy enclosed).

An adequate response must be received at the Commission by January 31, 2001. Adequate responses received on or before this date will be taken into consideration in determining whether audit action will be initiated. Requests for extensions of time in which to respond will not be considered. Failure to provide an adequate response by this date may result in an audit of the committee. Failure to comply with the provisions of the Act may also result in an enforcement action against the committee. Any response submitted by your committee will be placed on the public record and will be considered by the Commission prior to taking enforcement action.

If you should have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Dominick Ciaraldi on our toll-free number (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 1, then press 2 to reach the Reports Analysis Division) or our local number (202) 694-1130.

Sincerely,

John D. Gibson

Assistant Staff Director Reports Analysis Division



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Amended April Quarterly Report (1/1/00-3/31/00) received 7/14/00

Dear Mr. Herber:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report(s) referenced above. The review raised questions concerning certain information contained in the report(s). An itemization follows:

-Line 6(a) of the Summary Page represents the total cash-on-hand as of January 1, 2000. This figure, on the first report of the year, should be identical to the ending cash of the last report of the previous year. Please amend your report to clarify this discrepancy.

-Schedule A of your report (pertinent portion(s) attached) discloses a receipt(s) of \$4,863.00 from the Elections Committee of the County of Orange-State, which appears to be your committee's non-federal account. Please clarify whether this transfer(s) is from an account maintained by your committee for non-federal activity. If so, be advised that such a transfer is prohibited by 11 CFR §102.5(a)(1)(i) and the full amount of the transfer(s) should be returned to the non-federal account. Please inform the Commission of your corrective action immediately in writing and provide a photocopy of your check for the transfer-out. In addition, the transfer-out should be disclosed on Schedule B supporting Line 22 of your next report.

If this transaction represents an "internal transfer" of funds from one federal account to another, and the source(s) of such funds has been identified in previous reports of receipts and disbursements, please note that such transfers should not be itemized as doing so inflates total receipts and cash on hand. If this is the case, please amend your report accordingly.

Although the Commission may take further legal action regarding the acceptance of funds from a non-federal account, your prompt transfer-out of the impermissible funds or clarification of the transaction, will be taken into consideration.

-Your report discloses limited payments for administrative expenses. Administrative expenses are payments made for the purpose of operating a political committee including, but not limited to, rent, utilities, salaries, telephone service, office equipment and supplies. Any such payments to a person aggregating in excess of \$200 in a calendar year must be disclosed on Schedule(s) B, supporting Line(s) 21(b) of the Detailed Summary Page. 2 U.S.C. §434(b)(5) If these expenses are being paid by a connected organization, your Statement of Organization must be amended to reflect this relationship. 2 U.S.C. §433(b)(2) In addition, if expenses have been incurred but not paid in a reporting period, the activity should be disclosed as a debt on Schedule D, if the obligation is \$500 or more, or outstanding for sixty days or more. 11 CFR §104.11

Any goods or services provided to your committee by a person, except volunteer activity (i.e., a person's time), would be considered an in-kind contribution from that person, and would be subject to the disclosure requirements of 2 U.S.C. §434(b)(3) and 11 CFR §104.13, and the limitations and prohibitions of 2 U.S.C. §§441a and 441b.

Clarification regarding administrative expenses should be disclosed <u>during</u> each two year election cycle beginning with the first report filed in the non-election year. Please verify that all expenses referenced above (i.e., rent, salaries, utilities, etc.) have been adequately disclosed. If these services have been provided by volunteers, please confirm this in writing.

A written response or an amendment to your original report(s) correcting the above problem(s) should be filed with the Federal Election Commission within fifteen (15) days of the date of this letter. If you need assistance, please feel free to contact me on our toll-free number, (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 1, then press 2 to reach the Reports Analysis Division). My local number is (202) 694-1130.

Sincerely,

Dominick Ciaraldi

Reports Analyst

Reports Analysis Division

SCHEDULE A Transfers from Authorized Committees

ITEMIZED RECEIPTS

Lise separate echadula(s) for each category of the Detailed Summery Page (01/01/2000) - 03/21/2000)

PAGE FOR LIVE NUMBER

Any information copied from such Reports and Statements may not be sold or used by any parson for the purpose of soliciting contributions or for commercial purposed, other than using the name and address of any political committee to solicit contributions from such committee.

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